ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 2013-JULY 2014
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THE DIRECTOR GENERAL’S MESSAGE

2014 marks 20 years since the genocide against the Tutsi tore our country apart. Imbuto Foundation has compassionately contributed to the country’s rebirth in various ways, as our country rose from the ashes. For us, this has been a year to reflect on how to move to the next level – what we call Imbuto 2.0.

We held a retreat to review our strategic orientation, discuss our vision and take some time to dream about the future of the Foundation. As a board and staff, we challenged ourselves to go above and beyond expectations, to make our Foundation stronger, more relevant and sustainable. This retreat also gave us an opportunity to renew our commitment as a team.

Going forward, we want to focus on the impact of our projects on the community and how we can sustain this impact. We are continuously thinking of ways to tap into the creative ideas of our youth. Let me share a few thoughts on three ways we have continued to give a voice to our girls and young women.

Our Chairperson and Founder, the First Lady Mrs. Jeannette Kagame was named Zonta International honorary member this May. Zonta International is a global organization working together to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy. Zonta has over 30,000 members worldwide. We established a mentorship program for 300 young survivors of the genocide – all young women. We felt that providing role models for these girls, who still face challenges such as trauma and lack of a solid support system, is one way to assist them on their personal and professional journeys. 100 mentors have been paired with these 300 girls and commit their expertise and time to guiding and mentoring them in both professional and personal development.

Our new initiative of the year is the 12+ program funded by DFID. This program aims to empower 10-12 year old girls in 10 districts, with health, economic and social assets, using young women mentors. It adopts an innovative approach to delivering empowerment, with an emphasis on communications, mentoring, and using safe spaces. Imbuto Foundation is one of the implementing partners in the 12+ Project, which will be delivered nation-wide over the next 2 years. 320 mentors are being trained and are expected to empower 4,077 young girls. This mentorship takes place in safe spaces which are areas in schools, churches or the district office where girls feel comfortable to openly talk about hygiene, reproductive health, nutrition, savings and self-confidence.

Our partners and donors play an enormous role in making the work we do successful. We appreciate each and every one of them and look forward to strengthening our collaboration even further, this coming year.

Radegonde Ndejuru
SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Education

Economic Empowerment of vulnerable families

Youth Empowerment
Ashimwe Christine was one of the girls who performed exceptionally well on her national exams and as a result qualified to be rewarded by the First lady of Rwanda, through Imbuto Foundation. She has been rewarded twice: in 2011, when she completed her primary studies and in 2014 when she completed her O’ level. After she was rewarded, Christine joined a girls’ club at her school. These clubs are composed of girls who have been rewarded by Imbuto Foundation for performing well at school. Christine says: “Without these clubs, many girls’ talents would have remained hidden. We have discovered extraordinary skills and talents in ourselves. Together we learned that the secret behind success is hard work, we learnt to live full lives, and go beyond the limitations of our backgrounds, or the difficulties we face in life”. “We learnt how to remain confident and excellent. As club members, we encouraged each other with schoolwork, together we identified various tips to maintain our level of excellence, or even do better. We also encourage other girls who were not members of our club to strive to a level where they too, will become excellent students.” For Christine, being rewarded has been an entry point to a world full of opportunities. It made her realize how much can be offered to a person who works hard and is willing to remain outstanding. Christine is grateful to the First Lady of Rwanda Mrs. Jeannette Kagame for having provided a chance for Rwandan girls who have, historically been underestimated.
“At the age of 4, I was amazed by seeing people constructing houses. The process it took: the sand, cement, stones and wood. To satisfy my curiosity I committed myself to study construction in high school so that I could learn how to build a house. When I shared my dream with the rest of my family, they all ridiculed me saying that it was not a field for women. My dream of becoming a construction engineer led me to success; still, my family would not believe in my abilities until the First Lady Mrs. Jeannette Kagame rewarded me as a best performing girl. I encourage young girls who are still in primary school to follow their dreams, however small or impossible they might seem and of course always work toward excellence.”

“I am indebted to the First Lady Mrs. Jeannette Kagame and Imbuto Foundation for encouraging, empowering, and motivating me to aspire for excellence.”

Umutoi Veronise, is a Presidential scholar at Oklahoma Christian University. She is a survivor of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi. She lost her parents at the age of 3. Despite the difficulties of orphan hood, Veronise performed exceptionally well at school. She worked hard, always targeting the highest marks possible. This paid off, as she was rewarded twice by Imbuto Foundation for doing well at school. When she completed secondary school, she was rewarded with a laptop and a 3 weeks IT training. She is now about to receive her bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. Knowing that there are people who care about her and reward her for performing well, fills her with joy and created in her a spirit of determination to overcome all obstacles.
IMBUTO SCHOLARSHIPS ALUMNI GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Ntirenganya Valens graduated from secondary school with support from Imbuto Foundation. He is currently studying at the University of Rwanda: College of Science and Technology. Valens along with 17 former Imbuto scholarships recipients, who are studying in various higher learning institutions and universities in Rwanda, decided to pay school fees for 1 vulnerable student. Valens and his friends have established a network of Imbuto scholarships alumni; they plan to continue supporting smart students who are unable to finance their secondary education – a position they were once in.

A few of the Imbuto scholarships alumni

Hugh Delaney of UNICEF speaks at the Reading Day event.

Children at the Reading Day.
We used to rely on data provided by schools; however, schools were reluctant to give a true picture of school dropouts, fearing that they would be held responsible for the situation. Today, in collaboration with Community Education Workers (CEWs), we collect reliable data by visiting families and promptly reporting cases of dropout or irregular school attendance. This helps us to find solutions on time.

Furthermore, using Community Education Workers has eased access to citizens at community level. Previously, it was very difficult to interact with the community on education matters. Community Education Workers have become a voice for improving education in general, in all communities.

May God bless Imbuto Foundation and the Mubyeyi Tera Intambwe Initiative.
Joshua Tahinduka is one of the young people Imbuto Foundation has empowered through its Toastmasters clubs. He expresses himself confidently and decided to establish a Toastmasters club for young professionals in Rwanda. The club has 25 youth composed of members of the private sector, those working in NGOs as well as other sectors. Setting up ‘Rwanda 1’ Toastmasters club is a sign that Joshua was empowered because he saw the need to share his knowledge and skills with his peers.
Celebrating Young Rwandan Achievers.

The CYRWA Awards were established in December 2007 to honour outstanding young Rwandans who strive toward the highest levels of personal and professional accomplishment, who excel in their chosen field, devote time and energy to their community in a meaningful way, and forge paths of leadership for all Rwandan youth to follow. CYRWA is a biennial event aimed at recognizing young Rwandans’ outstanding efforts, within Rwanda and abroad. To date 29 remarkable young Rwandan men and women have been rewarded for their exceptional activities in their respective careers and communities.
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF VULNERABLE FAMILIES

**IMALI**
- 10 COOPERATIVES WITH 700 MEMBERS
- HEALTH INSURANCE FOR 165 PEOPLE COVERED FROM PROFITS

**AHEZA**
- 03 CHILDREN’S SCHOOL FEES PAID FOR
- 10 COWS WERE DONATED BY THE FIRST LADY AND CHAIRPERSON OF IMBUTO FOUNDATION TO VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN MUSANZE DISTRICT
- 200 YOUTH EQUIPPED WITH VARIOUS SKILLS

Abeza b’Indatwa cooperative.

Abeza b’Indatwa is a cooperative that started in 2011, with 32 members; most of them women. The members consist of widows and poor families. Over the last few years they have been growing tomatoes in greenhouses. Their income is now 3,384,294 Rwf, approximately $4,900. With part of this profit, they have paid health insurance for 135 members of their community.
HEALTH PROJECTS
**FAMILY PACKAGE**
Comprehensively Preventing & Eliminating Mother to Child Transmission of HIV

**MOUNTAIN MOVERS**
Preventing HIV among 15-24 Year Olds

**12 COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS EMPowered**

**27 HEALTH CENTERS IN 6 DISTRICTS**

**27 COOPERATIVES WITH 13,000 MEMBERS**

**9223 People tested for HIV 42 were found HIV+ & referred to health centers**

**730 PARENTS ATTENDED PARENTS & ADOLESCENTS COMMUNICATION FORUMS**

**651 ADOLESCENTS IN PARENTS & ADOLESCENTS COMMUNICATION FORUMS**

**540 PEER EDUCATORS ARE THE LINK BETWEEN COMMUNITIES & HEALTH CENTERS**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014**
KALISA THEONESTE, FROM KIGALI IS GRATEFUL TO IMBUTO FOUNDATION FOR ALL THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO HIM AS A HEALTH WORKER.

“Before Imbuto Foundation started to train us, I underestimated the consequences of not using mosquito nets. Like many in my community, I thought that investing in those nets was a waste of money. Through trainings, awareness campaigns, theatre and mobile video messages, I realized how important it is to use mosquito nets. With these tools, I am better able to fulfill my responsibilities to educate the citizens.”

It has been 4 years since Kalisa started using mosquito nets properly and all the citizens he is responsible for as a health worker do the same.
ADOLESCENT, SEXUAL, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (ASRH)

Given that girls used to miss class due to their menstrual periods, at the beginning of the 2013 academic year, a special room for girls was made available at 2 schools (College de Butamwa and Groupe Scholaire Sainte Famille). The rooms are equipped with basic supplies that a girl may need such as pads, towels, water and lotion. Girls do not miss classes anymore. This has positively impacted school attendance for girls.

At Bwisige secondary school in Gicumbi district, the Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (ASRH) club along with Anti HIV club have a newspaper called “the light power journal”. This paper contains information on adolescent sexual reproductive health and other relevant news, and is shared with the youth.

The ASRH club members hold discussions with fellow students about sexual and reproductive health, as well the surrounding community. They have a say when there is a parents meeting at the school. Club members take time to talk with parents about ASRH and about the parents’ responsibility to discuss ASRH with their children.

At the beginning of each term, the ASRH club members organize an ASRH week at school. Students participate in competitions on various ASRH aspects. They debate, play games, sing songs and the ASRH club rewards winners. In addition, ASRH members organize a social gathering at school where films on sexual and reproductive health are shown. The club works closely with the Bwisige Health Centre with regards to counseling for youth.
Parents and teenagers participating in a session under the 12+ program.

“I am happy and thankful that my daughter got a chance to be selected for the 12+ program. Girls of this age face many challenges, and so this program will help these girls to be self-confident and learn to make informed decisions. It will also prevent early pregnancies amongst young girls.”
Chance Tubane and Isabelle Kamaliza receive young achievers awards

Ashish Thakkar, youngest African billionaire speaks at our young achievers event

‘Financial Fitness Rwanda’ youth forum

Imbuto scholars Annual Youth camp.

Young girl receives an award for academic excellence.
TOTAL INCOMES & EXPENDITURES

(FINANCIAL YEAR 2013-2014)
* Please note that the above figures are provisional and not audited/final
And all the individuals who have supported us

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ENGAGE. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.
Think Big

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Twahisemo

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MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND ICT
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Stay Together

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Be Accountable

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